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September 9, 2009

Jim Byrum, President
Michigan Agri-Business Association
1501 North Shore Dr., Suite A
East Lansing, MI 48823

Sent as PDF via email: jim@miagbiz.org

Dear Jim,

It was a pleasure to meet with you last week. Per our conversation, until we reach an agreement on language, if the press contacts any of the parties involved in our discussions, all of us will have no comment. Once agreed upon language is introduced, if press contacts any of the parties involved in our discussions, the response from all of us should be:

"The stakeholders have reached a compromise agreement that, if enacted, will avert a ballot measure, and we look forward to working together in the legislature to advance the agreed upon bill."

Also per our conversation, if we reach an agreement on the language of the proposed compromise for the three issues we've been discussing, and that language is signed into law, and Michigan's veal, pork and egg producers come into compliance with the law by moving away from cage and crate confinement systems (with the exemptions identified in statute, of course), HSUS will not pursue a Michigan farm animal confinement-related ballot measure prior to the effective date of the law. As we discussed, because of certain immovable statutory deadlines, we will proceed with the process of getting our ballot measure reviewed and certified by the Secretary of State in the event it becomes needed, but we will withdraw that language immediately once an agreed-upon bill is signed into law.

We will be following up shortly with proposed language and look forward to your comments on it.

Sincerely,

Paul Shapiro
Senior Director
Factory Farming Campaign

Celebrating Animals, Confronting Cruelty